WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An electronic commerce system for the reuse of transaction documents, the system comprising:

one or more document repositories operable to store a plurality of transactions documents;

a global content directory including a plurality of classes organized in a hierarchy, each class categorizing the transaction documents and associated with one or more attributes of the transaction documents categorized in the class, at least one of the classes having one or more associated pointers that identify one or more document repositories;

an intelligence module operable to create one or more generic documents from one or more transaction documents; and

a search interface operable to communicate a search query for the transaction documents to one or more document repositories identified by pointers associated with one or more of the classes.

2.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the transaction documents comprise third party documents.

3.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the classes comprise a plurality of document classes.

4.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the classes comprise a plurality of product classes.

5.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the intelligence module:

segments the transaction documents into one or more sections;

determines which sections of the transaction documents are generic and which sections are specific to a particular transaction; and

removes from the transaction documents information in the sections specific to a particular transaction.

6.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the search interface is further operable to allow a user to navigate through the classes to search for a particular transaction document.

7.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the intelligence module is further operable to dynamically adjust the information in the sections in the generic documents to include current information.

8.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the search interface is further operable to allow a user to view the generic documents.

9.   The system of Claim 1 further comprising a security module associated with the global content directory, the security module operable to encrypt the transaction documents to control user access to the documents.

10.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the documents comprise one or more standard documents stored in a shared document repository.

11.   The system of Claim 1 wherein the documents comprise one or more unique documents stored in one or more seller databases.

12.   A method for transaction document storage and reuse, the method comprising:

storing a plurality of transaction documents in one or more document repositories;

associating the transaction documents with a global content directory, the global content directory including a plurality of classes organized in a hierarchy, each class categorizing the transaction documents and associated with one or more of the transaction documents categorized in the class;

searching for particular transaction documents by navigating through the classes; and

creating one or more generic documents from one or more transaction documents.

13.   The method of Claim 12 wherein the transaction documents comprise third party documents.

14.   The method of Claim 12 wherein the classes comprise a plurality of product classes.

15.   The method of Claim 12 wherein the classes comprise a plurality of document classes.

16.   The method of Claim 12 wherein creating generic documents comprises:

segmenting the transaction documents into one or more sections;

determining which sections from the transaction documents are generic and which sections are specific to a particular transaction;

removing from the transaction documents information in the sections specific to a particular transaction; and

carrying forward the generic sections from the transaction documents into the generic documents to protect one or more confidential details in the transaction documents.

17.   The method of Claim 12 further comprising denying access to the transaction documents when a user does not possess a required permission level.

5   18.   The method of Claim 12 further comprising dynamically adjusting the generic documents with current information.

19.   The method of Claim 12 further comprising:

selecting a transaction document from the transaction documents located using

10   the search interface;

viewing the generic document created from the transaction document; and

completing the generic document with a plurality of user specific information.

20.   Software for transaction document storage and reuse, the software embodied in a computer-readable medium and operable to:

store a plurality of transaction documents in one or more document repositories;

associate the transaction documents with a global content directory, the global content directory including a plurality of classes organized in a hierarchy, each class categorizing the transaction documents and associated with one or more of the transaction documents categorized in the class;

search for particular transaction documents by navigating through the classes; and

create one or more generic documents from one or more transaction documents.

21.   The software of Claim 20 wherein the transaction documents comprise third party documents.

22.   The software of Claim 20 wherein the classes comprise a plurality of product classes.

23.   The software of Claim 20 wherein the classes comprise a plurality of document classes.

24.   The software of Claim 20 wherein creating generic documents is operable to:

segment the transaction documents into one or more sections;

determine which sections from the transaction documents are generic and which sections are specific to a particular transaction;

remove from the transaction documents information in the sections specific to a particular transaction; and

carry forward the generic sections from the transaction documents into the generic documents to protect one or more confidential details in the transaction documents.

25.   The software of Claim 20 further operable to deny access to the transaction documents when a user does not possess a required permission level.

26.   The software of Claim 20 further operable to dynamically adjust the generic documents with current information.

27.   The software of Claim 20 further operable to:

select a transaction document from the transaction documents located using the search interface;

view the generic document created from the transaction document; and

complete the generic document with a plurality of user specific information.

28.   A system for transaction document storage and reuse, the method comprising:

means for storing a plurality of transaction documents;

means for organizing a plurality of classes organized in a hierarchy, each class

5   categorizing the transaction documents and associated with one or more of the transaction documents categorized in the class;

means for searching for particular transaction documents by navigating through the classes; and

means for creating one or more generic documents from one or more

10   transaction documents.